A true Copy of a

LETTER

Sent by *S. J.* an Eminent Minister of the Church of *England*,

TO

Sir Tho. Armestrong

Prisoner in *Newgate*, on the 18*th* of this Instant *June*, 1684.

Sir Thomas,

NOw is the day at hand in which your strong held Soul and Body must be disunited and dissolved by Death: I shall not here stand to mention the hainousness of your crime, and the Merits of your Death. You are now shortly to appear before the Righteous Judge of Heaven and Earth, for whose unavoidable Assize I hope you prepare for; *Conscientia mille testes*, there is no Bribing, no Subornation of Juries nor Evidence; If your own Heart Condemn you, God is greater then your Heart, and knoweth all things: It is no great matter to stand upon those punctillions of honour, how, or after what manner you shall make your *exit*, and Death close your Eyes. Whether longer or shorter? whether Nobly or Ignominiously? (as to Worldly Fame) whether in the Field or in the Bed? whether by the Axe or the Gibbet? It is your Soul I aim at: It is true your Crime was great here, (I beg your Pardon) I do not

intend to inſult over one, *Mortuus in Lege*, a dying Man a dead Lyon: But that I may by theſe juſt conſiderations, raiſe the Spring of your Soul to a right conſideration, and a true pitch for Eternity; and as your Life makes attonement to the King, it muſt be your true Repentance, Prayers and Tears with ſtrong Sighs and Groans that muſt make attonement through Chriſt to God Almighty, which is the only thing I heartily deſire for, and am fellow Labourer with you: That this your ſincere and true Repentance may ſo animate your Soul, that may prepare it for an Eternal weight of Glory.

The beſt Cordial I can give you, or preſcribe to you in this preſent Diſeaſe (*In terticulo morbi*) is the Word of God: Where I ſhall firſt adviſe you to Read as ſoon as may be, *That you find your Soul hovering after Eternal Happineſs*, is the 88 *Pſalm*, both as it is in the *Bible* and alſo alter'd ſomething in the *Common-Prayer-Book*: There is nothing in the whole Word of God doth more correſpond with your preſent condition. And this truly humbling to you, and inclining your Soul to ſeek for Soul ſaving comfort, turn to the 55 of *Iſaiah* 6 and 7 *ver.* Other promiſes of Mercy I doubt not but you will apply to your ſelf, and in that ſafe way and Method our dear Lord and Saviour hath Scour'd out unto you, from his own Promiſſes and Intercеſſion. Thus prepared like *Moſes* the Servant of the Lord, when he had by God himſelf his day and place appointed for Death, in the 32 of *Deut.* and ſo on, *He is nothing diſmayed, but Sings his Song, makes his Speech, gives his Bleſſing, goes chearfully up at the Command of God and Dyes.* I pray God ſo Bleſſed a Saint may be your Pattern, and that your Sins may be freely Pardon'd, and your Soul may be Eternally ſaved.

Is the moſt Ardent deſire, and Prayers of him that was your Acquaintance, and now a poor Interceſſor at the Throne of Grace, for you.

LONDON, Printed for *A. Bancks*.

Entred according to Order.

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